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A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LAND EXCHANGE AT FIRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1163) to authorize the exchange of National Park Service land in the Fire Island National Seashore in the State of New York for land in the village of Patchogue, Suffolk County, NY, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1163

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF EXCHANGE.

The Secretary of the Interior may exchange all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to certain National Park Service lands in the Fire Island National Seashore in the State of New York, described in section 2, for all right, title, and interest of the Village of Patchogue, Suffolk County, New York, in and to certain lands in the Village of Patchogue, described in section 2, without further consideration.

SEC. 2. DESCRIPTION OF LANDS TO BE EXCHANGED.

(a) NATIONAL PARK LANDS.—The National Park Service lands in the Fire Island National Seashore, in the State of New York, referred to in section 1 are the lands generally depicted on the map entitled "Fire Island National Seashore Land Exchange—Proposed", dated October 1994.

(b) VILLAGE OF PATCHOGUE LANDS.—The lands in the Village of Patchogue, Suffolk County, New York, referred to in section 1 are the lands generally depicted on the map entitled "Village of Patchogue Land Exchange—Proposed", dated October 1994.

(c) MAPS.—The maps referred to in subsections (a) and (b) shall be on file and available for inspection in the Office of the Director of the National Park Service.

SEC. 3. LANDS ACQUIRED BY SECRETARY.

The lands in the Village of Patchogue that are acquired by the Secretary of the Interior under section 1 shall be added to and administered as part of the Fire Island National Seashore.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon [Mr. COOLEY] and the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. RICHARDSON] each will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon [Mr. COOLEY].

(Mr. COOLEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1163, sponsored by Mr. FORBES, which would authorize the exchange of National Park Service land in the Fire Island National Seashore in the State of New York for land in the village of Patchogue, Suffolk County, NY.

H.R. 1163, introduced by Mr. FORBES authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to exchange approximately 8 acres of riverfront property currently within the Fire Island National Seashore for

approximately 2 acres owned by the village of Patchogue, NY.

The village of Patchogue intends that the riverfront area be lightly developed with retail shops and restaurants. Currently, the Patchogue land consists of a large paved area and a few buildings. Fire Island needs the property for overflow parking, vehicle maintenance, and perhaps some office space.

I urge the Members of the House to support this measure that was favorably reported by the House Resources Committee by unanimous voice vote and commend its sponsor for his hard work.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. RICHARDSON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, this bill would authorize the exchange of land located in Fire Island National Seashore for land owned by the village of Patchogue, NY. This is a good bill. It is a good exchange between the local and Federal governments with respect to the area.

It is a good tradeoff for both sides. It is expected that Fire Island National Seashore would use the acquired land to address the needs for overflow parking, vehicle maintenance, and office space, while the village of Patchogue would use its acquired land for commercial development, including retail shops and restaurants. As I said, this bill will satisfy the needs of both the local and the Federal governments with respect to the area, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. FORBES].

(Mr. FORBES asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues on the Committee on Resources for their expeditious handling of this vital piece of legislation.

H.R. 1163 would authorize an exchange of two small parcels in the district I am privileged to represent on eastern Long Island. It would be basically an even exchange involving no money.

Mr. Speaker, the Fire Island National Seashore, which is one of the pristine parks on Long Island, and the village of Patchogue have worked hand in hand to bring about this exchange of land. The first parcel is about 1½ acres. It is undeveloped property along the Patchogue River with literally about 20 percent of the parcel under water. And it currently is part of the Fire Island National Seashore.

The second parcel is 1.1 acres and it is a paved area currently owned by the village of Patchogue and being used as

a parking lot. The Fire Island National Seashore is in need of a facility, a paved facility, where they can administer their vehicles and have a storage area and for other activity such as overflow parking, storage, et cetera, and a parcel of land, that they do not want to be dependent upon a waterfront location.

Likewise, the village of Patchogue would like riverfront parcels for the purposes of providing for economic development. Patchogue has fallen on difficult times in recent years, and working hand in hand with the mayor of Patchogue, Franklyn S. "Whitey" Lewendowsky, and the village board, they are working tirelessly to look for ways for economic development in the village of Patchogue. The village of Patchogue, being affectionately referred to as the downtown area of Brookhaven town.

Patchogue is hoping that this responsible economic redevelopment with the use of capital and job creation will help put a shot in the arm for Patchogue and help to revitalize this critical area in my district.

The exchange is supported by all sides. This is certainly a wonderful example of where local and Federal Government can work hand in hand for the benefit of all the people. The Park Service has several compliance measures that they need to deal with before the actual exchange can take place, but if we authorize it today, everything will be in order when the Park Service completes those vital steps.

I ask for unanimous consent to pass this important piece of legislation.

Again, I thank my colleagues for their assistance in making possible the passage of this measure.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill.

I would like this body to note the outstanding bipartisanship, especially exhibited by the minority, in the passage of all of these majority Republican bills that are going through and the equanimity and the collegiality in making these bills a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I Yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New Mexico for his benevolence. I do appreciate that very much. I also want to thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. FORBES] for this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon [Mr. COOLEY] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1163, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.